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President's Message

Bruce R. Williams, CGCS
MAGCS President

The month of June has a number of important dates to keep in mind. It signals the end of the school year. Can you remember the anticipation that led up to the final days before summer vacation? It seemed like summer would never come. Likewise it seemed like the summers passed so quickly when we were young. Before you knew it, summer was over and it was time to return to school. The suburban scene provides some outstanding recreational opportunities for our children that will keep them busy during the summer months. What the recreational programs won't provide is the love and attention that our children need. The demands of our profession are such that we usually allocate the majority of our time to work and then we take the balance and use it for family and recreation. That surely doesn't leave a lot of time to spend with the children during the summer months.

The best way to avoid a summer slipping by without spending time with the kids is to put them on your calendar and make a point to go to their baseball games and soccer games. Most of us don't really feel like going to the beach after a long day at the golf course under the hot sun but that doesn't mean that the family doesn't appreciate going. The nature of our business provides us with the opportunity to schedule our days as we see fit. Most superintendents work 60 plus hours a week and I doubt if their employers would begrudge them for spending an afternoon with their family. The time is there, we just need to place a priority on family outings.

I can assure you that I understand what summers are like as the child of a golf course superintendent. My father worked long and hard to become one of the outstanding leaders of our profession. I admire him for what he has accomplished and credit him as the driving force that has most influenced my life. But I can tell you that I was confused as I was growing up. I couldn't understand why my father worked from sunrise until sunset. I always wondered why my father worked weekends and holidays. The profession of the golf course superintendent often prevented many families from spending time together. It wasn't until I had grown up that I realized what my father's job was all about. At that time I began to understand the long hours and dedication needed to be successful in our business.

Later in the month of June we celebrate Father's Day. I try to use this as a reminder that I have an obligation to my children and that being a parent is just as important as any Member-Guest Day you will ever prepare for. I hope that I will have many more memories of the time I spend with my family than the number of compliments (or complaints) that I receive after a club function. So many of my fellow superintendents tell me

that they wished they had spent more time with their family along the way. By the time they were established personally and professionally, it was too late as their children were grown up and gone. Take the time now to be with your children. Be an active part of their development. Being a kid isn't easy. Be a friend to your children and be someone that they can love and respect. Use Father's Day as a reminder to be the best father you can be.

For those of us who grew up in the business, don't forget to remember your own fathers and the opportunities they have provided us. The heritage of multiple generations in our profession is quite unique. Aside from my own family, we have the Dinelli's, the Stewarts, the Lapps, the Hophanns, the Byrnes, the Breens, the Brauns, the Burdets, the Clesens, the Fuchs family, the Gerbers, the Hubers, the Bob Johnson family, Dudley Smith & Rick Wilson, the Nels Johnson family, the Nugents, the Kensingers, the Kronns, the Meyers, the Mirkes family, the Nadlers, the Reeds, the Schmitzes, the Wollenbergs, and the Zolmans, I am sorry if I have forgotten anyone. Quite an impressive list of Chicago families in the turf industry. When you start adding the Koelper brothers, the Miles brothers, and the Voykin brothers, you can see that the golf industry in Chicago is truly a family affair. For many of us it has become more than a profession, it is a way of life we are all proud to be a part of.

Enjoy your family while you can. Take time to smell the roses. Take the kids to a baseball game. Visit the many attractions we have here in Chicago. Go to the zoo, the museums, the Shedd Aquarium, the Planetarium. Take a walk through the miles of trails in our many forest preserves and parks. Teach your children to play golf. Take a weekend occasionally for the family to get away. Remember that we all have the same amount of time in a day, week, or year. It is merely a matter of how we use it. Devote some of that time to your family.

Turf Foundation News

O. J. Noer Research Foundation Election

At the recent O. J. Noer Directors' and Membership Annual Meeting, William Schmidt was elected Vice President for the Foundation and Alan Nees was elected as a Director. Mr. Schmidt is General Manager and Sales Manager of E. H. Griffith, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA; Mr. Nees is presently Acting Manager of Sales and Agronomy in the Marketing Division for Milorganite, Milwaukee, WI. The membership meeting was held in Las Vegas during the recent GCSAA Conference. Dr. James Watson, Vice President of Toro Manufacturing Co., and a member of the foundation was the featured speaker, giving his views on the future of the turfgrass industry.

The O. J. Noer Research Foundation is a not for profit, tax deductible foundation dedicated to financial support of scientific research in turfgrass. It was founded in 1959 by associates and friends of O. J. Noer to honor one of the most widely known and respected turfgrass agronomists. His lifetime's work was the improvement of turfgrasses. Golf courses have improved dramatically over the year due, in part, to Noer's pioneering work.

The research projects are basic in nature, assuring usable information wherever turf is grown. In addition, data provided by some projects has stimulated other research activity on related subjects to further benefit users and growers of turfgrass.

Grants are made in all geographic areas in the U.S. in order to utilize the knowledge and facilities of outstanding scientists and universities. Advanced degrees gained through Noer grants help assure a continuing source of turfgrass specialists for all facets of the industry.

The Noer Foundation is also involved with helping library collections that are important to the turfgrass business. Libraries at Michigan State University and Texas A & M receive support in the establishment of and book acquisition for their turfgrass collections. The O. J. Noer Turfgrass Collection has been incorporated into the USGA Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) at Michigan State University. TGIF is a computer data base of turfgrass research reports and abstracts. Many historical projects, research reports, conference proceedings, etc., have been acquired, with the help of many prominent resources.

Noer Foundation grants are made from investment profits. Thus, any donations made to the Foundation continue to bring dividends from that time forward. The Officers and Directors receive no compensation, no transportation or living expenses at meetings.

Current projects are being funded at Cornell University, Georgia Coastal Plains Experiment Station, Iowa State University, University of Kentucky, and the University of Minnesota.

Contributions may be sent to:

O. J. Noer Foundation, Inc.
c/o Robert Welch, Exec. Sec. & Tres.
301 S. 61st Street
Milwaukee, WI 53214

Genetic Work Wins \$12,000 Musser Scholarship for Tennessee Turf Student

Developing techniques to transfer desirable traits from one plant to another has earned a \$12,000 scholarship for a 26-year old doctoral candidate at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

James E. Bond, a native of England, was awarded the 1991 Musser International Turfgrass Foundation's graduate scholarship to complete studies that are "of tremendous benefit to turfgrasses," according to Dr. Lloyd M. Callahan, a University of Tennessee professor in charge of a DNA research program in the department of Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design.

As a direct result of Bond's work, "highly desired traits such as cold-hardiness, herbicide resistance, disease resistance, among others, can be introduced into desired turfgrasses that do not possess this trait," wrote Callahan in nominating Bond for the scholarship.

"This technology is essential for genetic engineering of plants and the related improvement of crop species," echoed Dr. Peter M. Gresshof, who holds the Racheff Chair of Excellence in plant molecular genetics at the University of Tennessee. "(Bond's) progress has been excellent despite the intellectual and scientific challenge of the research."

(cont'd. page 4)

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(Musser cont'd.)

The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation was formed by graduates of the turfgrass programs at Penn State University to fund basic turfgrass research through fellowships to outstanding graduate students completing their doctoral work in turfgrass science. It honors the late Dr. H. Burton Musser, turfgrass researcher and educator who developed Penncross creeping bentgrass during his four decades at Penn State.

The organization is funded primarily by contributions from Penn State alumni and grants from companies in the turfgrass industry. This year, the association sought donations for golf course superintendent associations and three responded: Midwest, West Virginia and Florida.

Frank Dobie, superintendent of The Sharon Club in Sharon, Ohio, was re-elected president at the organization's annual meeting in Las Vegas. Dr. Joseph Duich, current head of Penn State's turfgrass program, is first vice president. Tom Burrows, a turfgrass consultant based in Stuart, Fla., is second vice president. John Spodnik, superintendent of the Westfield (Ohio) CC is treasurer and Dudley Smith, superintendent of the Silver Lake CC is secretary.

Elected to the board of directors was Dr. Robert Shearman of the University of Nebraska.

Retaining their seats on the board of directors were Michael Bavier, Inverness CC, Palatine, IL; Dr. James Beard, Texas A&M University; Warren Bidwell, Tee-2-Green Inc., Woodstock, GA; Pye Bredenkamp, Randpark Club, Johannesburg, South Africa; William Daniel, W. LaFayette, IN; Dr. Henry Indyke, Rutgers University.

Also Ken Killian, Killian Design Group, Palatine, IL; Tom Mascaro, North Miami, FL; James Metcalfe, Randpark Club, Transvaal, South Africa; Robert Miller, ChemLawn Corp.; Dr. Harry Niemczyk, Ohio State University; D.J. Pakkala, International Golf Management, Pebble Beach, CA; Terry Plagmann, Penncross Growers Assn., Albany, OR; William Rose, Tee-2-Green, Inc., Hubbard, OR.

Also Dr. Richard Schmidt, VPI, Blacksburg, VA; John Souter, Souter of Stirling Ltd., Perthshire, Scotland; Eberhart Steiniger, Laurel Springs, NJ; and Dr. James Watson, The Toro Co.

New Procedures — Awesome

Have you heard about unique, new procedures to grow and care for all types of grasses and trees? Reports indicate that these will "immediately reduce by fifty percent the amount of water needed by grasses and trees". Further, "the sugar content of the leaves will be dramatically increased. Plants and trees will be able to withstand a wide range of both high and low temperatures longer without damage. And the amount of fertilizer needed can be reduced by over forty percent."

These types of reports are not unusual. They stimulate interest and, in doing so, develop expectations that have little possibility of being realized under average lawn conditions.

Lawn care is based on sound soil-plant relationships. New procedures, no matter how awesome the presentation, need thorough evaluation before you accept them. The Lawn Institute serves as a clearinghouse for lawn care information. Send your questions with a stamped, self-addressed number ten envelope to: P. O. Box 108, Pleasant Hill, Tennessee 38578.

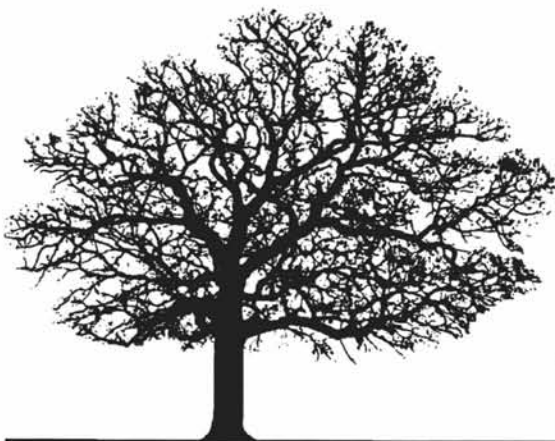


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Fire Ravages U. of I. Ornamental Horticulture Research Center

On Monday evening, 29 April 1991, fire consumed the maintenance building at the Ornamental Horticulture Research Center, located in the University south farms in Urbana. The building and much of the contents were destroyed. The Center's building was used to store equipment and supply and also contained a workshop, office, and laboratory. The dollar value of the loss was placed at approximately \$400,000. Arson is believed to be the cause of the conflagration.

Fortunately, no one was injured in the blaze, nor were any experimental plots damaged. Data and results of ongoing and past experiments are maintained away from the site and were not lost.

Plans for rebuilding the facility are being made pending administrative and financial decisions of the U. of I. College of Agriculture and Central Campus Administration. Interim plot maintenance and experimental work is being performed using equipment on loan from local vendors and turf managers.

The 1991 University of Illinois Turfgrass, Nursery, Landscape, and Trial Garden Field Day will be held, as planned, on 15 August 1991. Registration materials will be mailed in early July.

Following administration decisions, a list of needed equipment and supplies will be determined. If you have equipment or supplies you would like to contribute, contact Dr. David Wehner (phone 217/333-7848 or fax 217/244-3469). A rebuilding fund through the University of Illinois Foundation is also being put in place. Dr. Wehner will be able to discuss any monetary contributions to support the rebuilding effort.

Tom Voigt



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Golf Apprenticeship

by Larry Marty, Kishwaukee College

As far as Paul Voykin, Supt. of Briarwood Country Club, is concerned, "a golf course student can never get enough 'hands on' experience as you prepare for your career."

Going on this assumption, I decided 5 years ago to sponsor a golf course apprenticeship program for second year students. As it has evolved, my golf course majors spend 2 days per month during the school year at a different golf course helping or viewing a special task.

The first year of our program, Medinah Golf Club was renovating their bentgrass fairways. The whole procedure was also recorded in a slide presentation for our golf course management class.

Over the past five years, we've been on 30 plus courses. It's been a great experience for me, too. Golf course superintendents, by nature of their jobs, are some of the best educators of any horticultural occupation. Their national organization promotes this philosophy to their membership to the point it becomes second nature when they return home. As a group, they've been very good to Kishwaukee's turf management program.

Bob Graunke, superintendent at Eagle Ridge, hosts our students yearly. Students working with mechanic Doug Fouts learn how to sharpen reels & bed knives on their express duel. Bob's expertise in pesticide & equipment safety training has been an excellent resource for our program.

Once freshmen students find out how good the program is, I never have to worry about a group the next year. I've had 15 students go through this program and currently 9 are assistants or superintendents.

U.S. Golf Course Supply -- State-by-State Summary

(As of December 31, 1990)

State	Daily Fee		Municipal		Private		Total	
	Total	Rank	Total	Rank	Total	Rank	Total	Rank
Alabama	53	T-32	33	28	125	14	211	25
Alaska	4	50	2	T-49	2	51	8	51
Arizona	131	15	31	29	74	29	236	22
Arkansas	50	34	14	42	87	T-25	151	31
California	367	5	168	1	318	3	853	2
Colorado	64	29	64	10	59	33	187	26
Connecticut	53	T-32	35	T-26	80	28	168	29
Delaware	5	49	2	T-49	21	41	28	49
District of Columbia	3	51	3	T-47	4	50	10	50
Florida	442	2	96	5	473	1	1,011	1
Georgia	109	19	42	21	173	9	324	15
Hawaii	41	37	7	T-44	19	T-43	67	44
Idaho	42	36	26	T-33	14	T-45	82	T-41
Illinois	251	8	151	3	204	6	606	8
Indiana	220	12	63	11	104	20	387	12
Iowa	141	15	56	12	170	10	367	13
Kansas	71	27	48	T-17	124	T-15	243	20
Kentucky	99	22	36	T-24	93	22	228	24
Louisiana	28	43	22	35	98	21	148	32
Maine	89	23	9	43	23	40	121	35
Maryland	32	T-40	27	T-31	87	T-25	146	33
Massachusetts	166	14	40	T-22	123	17	329	14
Michigan	513	1	87	7	149	11	749	5
Minnesota	224	11	81	8	89	24	394	11
Mississippi	40	38	15	T-39	30	23	145	34
Missouri	115	18	49	T-15	116	18	280	17
Montana	32	T-40	19	36	24	39	75	43
Nebraska	66	28	36	T-24	71	30	173	27
Nevada	30	42	18	37	7	49	55	46
New Hampshire	81	25	4	46	14	T-45	99	39
New Jersey	80	26	48	T-17	135	12	263	18
New Mexico	24	47	29	30	29	38	82	T-41
New York	401	4	119	4	261	4	781	3
North Carolina	242	9	35	T-28	197	7	474	9
North Dakota	26	T-44	46	T-12	31	37	103	38
Ohio	420	3	92	6	192	8	704	6
Oklahoma	55	31	53	13	64	31	172	28
Oregon	108	20	15	T-39	36	35	159	30
Pennsylvania	365	6	44	20	234	5	643	7
Rhode Island	25	46	3	T-47	20	42	48	48
South Carolina	185	13	7	T-44	124	T-15	316	16
South Dakota	38	39	27	T-31	45	34	110	36
Tennessee	86	24	40	T-22	108	19	234	23
Texas	231	10	153	2	372	2	756	4
Utah	26	T-44	49	T-15	19	T-43	94	40
Vermont	49	35	0	51	11	48	60	45
Virginia	100	21	26	T-33	130	13	256	19
Washington	129	17	50	14	61	32	240	21
West Virginia	58	30	17	38	34	36	109	37
Wisconsin	265	7	70	9	82	27	417	10
Wyoming	22	48	15	T-39	12	47	49	47
U.S. Totals	6,497		2,222		5,232		13,951	

Source: National Golf Foundation/Golf Facilities in the U.S. (1991 Edition)



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Fungicides were evaluated at the Valentine Turfgrass Research Center, University Park, PA, on perennial ryegrass, maintained under home lawn/golf course fairway management conditions. Two applications of Prograss, at a rate of 2 lbs. per acre, were applied for *Poa annua* control on 14 and 30 October, 1988. The experimental area was fertilized on 4 and 18 May, 1989, with 0.5 lbs. actual N (NH_4NO_3) per 1000 sq. ft. Tersan 1991 at 2 oz. per 1000 sq. ft. was applied on 23 June to control large brown patch in the experimental area. Individual treatment plots, 3 ft. x 18 ft., were arranged in a randomized complete block design with 3 replications. Fungicides were applied with a CO_2 -powered, boom sprayer using T-jet 8004 nozzles, at 30 psi, in water equivalent to 2 gal. per 1000 sq. ft. Two separate tests were carried out. Fungicide applications were made on 27 June in Test 2. Three days after fungicide applications (30 June), a 3 ft.-wide strip across all treatments was inoculated with a 6-isolate pool of *Pythium aphanidermatum* grown on autoclaved rye grain. Following inoculation, the 3 ft.-wide inoculated strip was covered with PVC pipe-framed, translucent plastic-covered humidity chambers to increase relative humidity and minimize radiational cooling at night. Humidity chambers were equipped with intermittent mist to maintain a saturated atmosphere. Chamber ends were open and a 1-minute mist was applied over 20 min. during daylight hours. At night, chamber ends were closed and no mist was applied. After one week incubation, the chambers were removed and the inoculated areas were visually rated (9 days post-treatment). A second inoculation in test 1 was made 9 days after treatment (6 July), in the manner described above. Chambers were removed and this inoculation was rated 16 days post-treatment (13 July). Fungicides were applied in test 2 on 11 July, inoculation/incubation were carried out 2 days post-treatment (13 July), and inoculation termination/rating were done 9 days post-treatment (20 July). All data were subjected to analysis of variance and Waller-Duncan K-ratio t test. Data from tests 1 and 2 are presented.

In test 1, disease pressure was low in the first inoculation (37% mean blight in non-treated checks), with the result that there was little separation among chemical treatments. By 16 days post-treatment in test 1, only Aliette and Koban + Aliette were providing acceptable levels of disease control. In test 2 at 9 days post-treatment, most of the chemical treatments were giving excellent control of *Pythium* blight, except the low rate of P368 and the individual applications of the reduced-rate mixture components. Disclaimer: These results should not be considered by anyone as an endorsement by The Pennsylvania State University.

charts on page 11

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